

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GOVERNOR MAPP MEETS WITH
VIRGIN ISLANDS FIREFIGHTERS**

(July 27, 2015, St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands) This morning Governor Kenneth E Mapp met with several firefighters, union representatives and other concerned citizens. The meeting was held at the Governor Juan F Luis Hospital Cardiac Center conference room. Governor Mapp listened to the concerns of the firefighters and addressed several issues relating to incentive pay, step increases, staffing needs and diversification.

“Currently there are only 64 firefighters, only 6 of which are women, in 1992 there were 126 firefighters on duty. Almost half of the census for the firefighters is eligible to retire within two years. Our Administration is determined to increase training and recruitment, improve facilities and incentive pay for the Virgin Islands Fire Department. My office will be looking into the hazardous pay situation, which so many of you discussed here today.” Stated Governor Mapp.

This evening Governor Mapp will host the VIFD in a Virgin Islands Fire Services Promotion Ceremony at Government House in Christiansted, St. Croix. “It is my honor to host this promotional ceremony of our firefighters. These men and women continue to educate themselves, advance their training, therefore becoming better firefighters, benefitting the entire territory.” Said the Governor.

The Promotional ceremonies will take place at Government House in Christiansted from 5:00pm to 7:00pm this evening July 27, 2015.

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